

THE IRRIGATION CONGRESS MEETS

National Organization's Initial Session Featured by Address of H. C. Clark

**BILLIONS OF DOLLARS
ARE INVOLVED, HE SAYS**

New Orleans Speaker Declared That Adoption by Government of Practical Reclamation - By - Drainage Policy Would Change Twenty Million Acres of Unused Lands Into Seven Billion Dollars' Worth of Fertile, Productive Farm Lands.

(By the Associated Press.)

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Declaring that the adoption by the Federal Government of a practical reclamation-by-drainage policy would change 70,000,000 acres of now unused wet lands into \$7,000,000,000 worth of enormously fertile and highly productive farm lands, reduce the cost of living to every family in the United States, and almost double the agricultural commerce of the country, Hon. Hunter C. Leake, of New Orleans, in an address today urged the National Irrigation Congress to ask the Federal Government to adopt a drainage policy that in its scope will ignore State lines and the barrier heretofore imposed by State's Rights.

"The purchase of the Louisiana territory," said Mr. Leake, "was the best stroke of diplomacy in the history of the United States. The drainage of the 70,000,000 acres of enormously fertile low lands in the country will inevitably prove the greatest, the best and the most profitable business stroke ever credited to the United States. Cost of reclamation should not average more than \$10 an acre. Available to the plow, these drained acres will be worth, at low valuation, \$100 each. Here alone is a profit of 1,000 per cent.

"This 1,000 per cent is only the initial and smaller profit to accrue. There is no means by which the broad ramifications of such a developed asset may be traced to finality, or the benefits to be derived from an augmented food supply, an augmented commerce and an augmented national wealth may be calculated.

"There is no other project on earth that offers such a sure and such a splendid cash profit on capital invested, or such a sure and permanent means of checking the advancing cost of food, the cause of which is a relative increase in demand over production.

"Some years ago two-thirds of the country's population engaged in agricultural pursuits. Today only one-third of the country's population is so engaged. Yet agriculture, the history of which is the history of man in his most primitive and most enduring form, is just as honorable a calling as when Cincinnatus was twice called from the plow to the highest offices in the State."

Describing the effect on the farmer of the telephone, the railroad and other modern inventions, Mr. Leake said:

"The farmer now walks in the bright light of knowledge, whereas he formerly stumbled in the dim light of experience alone.

"The son of the soil now demands the same relative return from his brain, his education and his labor that men in other walks of life enjoy. Under the old order of things he cannot get it.

"A few years ago, to encourage the farmer, the Federal Government found it necessary to place water on the arid lands of the West where men and women who desired to engage in scientific agricultural pursuits might build and develop their homes. These lands have been taken up as rapidly as irrigated, and have become very valuable, and other fertile low cost farms by the tens of thousands are needed.

"Such farms, meeting in every way the requirements of the modern educated farmer can now only be obtained through the opening up of the 70,000,000 acres of alluvial lands, consequently the drainage of these lands must engage not only the attention of the States in which they lie, but of the Federal Government as well since the permanent prosperity of the nation not only depends upon the volume and stability of the food supply but on a low average cost of production, both of which are obtainable only under the most favorable conditions of soil, of climate and of convenience which those remaining low lands alone can supply. Such lands invite intensive cultivation, and intensive cultivation of the 70,000,000 acres of richest soil in the country will not only increase, relatively and actually, the nation's food supply, but it will decrease, relatively and actually, the average cost of food to every family in every section of the country.

"Our experience in Louisiana, where reclamation work is progressing rapidly and entirely successfully, shows conclusively that the 70,000,000 acres of low lands in the country can be reclaimed at relatively low cost and made enormously productive within a period of a very few years. Thus far about 300,000 of the 9,000,000 acres of wet lands in Louisiana have been reclaimed, and the cultivators are fast growing rich. One farmer—A. V. Smith, who bails from Marshall, Mich., has cleared \$100,000 in four years from the products of his reclaimed farm near Lockport, La. He is merely a type.

"Louisiana is reclaiming her wet lands without Federal aid, not because Federal aid is not desired, but because it has not been available. The State has authorized the creation of drainage districts and the sale of drainage bonds, against which an annual acreage tax on the improved land

is collected and applied by the State treasurer.

"Louisiana does not ask the Federal Government to reclaim her low lands, but does ask that the Federal Government supply outfalls for the drainage of the States northward which will not prove inadequate when the flow from Louisiana's drainage pumps shall reach maximum volume as the area brought under drainage increases.

"The Federal Government has watered the arid lands of the West, has cleaned up Havana, and has improved the health of Central American ports in the interest of citizens of the United States. It has also wisely invaded States' Rights and established a Federal medical inspection at the Gulf ports.

"There was logic, common sense and practical economy behind these acts.

"There is even more logic, more common sense and greater practical economy behind the request you will make of the Federal Congress to render direct and extensive aid in draining our 70,000,000 acres of fertile low lands.

"I desire to suggest that when you make that request you ask the Government to ignore State lines, to forget the ancient and oft-times abused principle of the States' Rights—that you urge the Government to adopt a broad policy that will enable and instruct its officials to aid and assist in freeing the low lands of excess moisture wherever such lands lie. Reclamation of these lands does not present one-tenth the difficulty presented by the irrigation projects in the West."

45,000 PEOPLE TAKE TREATMENT

Remarkable Progress of Crusade Against Hookworm in North Carolina

Reports from the physicians of the State and from the physicians conducting the State and county free dispensaries for hookworm disease, show that since the work began twenty-one months ago upwards of forty-five thousand people have been treated. Nearly half of this number has been treated in the free dispensaries of thirteen counties since July 1st. In the State there are 1,800 physicians, and 1,500 of them are active practitioners, 1,200 of them have sent in written accounts of their experience with the disease, and 800 of them, representing all sections of the State, have been actively engaged in treating the disease. Twenty-five counties have already made provision for the dispensaries, besides those appropriating for the dispensaries the first Monday in December.

Thirty-six thousand people have been microscopically examined for hookworm disease. A large number of those treated had such heavy infection that the microscopic examination was not necessary. There is found now little difficulty in securing co-operation on the part of the people and county commissioners, where good results of the work can be seen or heard of.

It took some of us a good many years to discover that there was more profit in selling eggs from pure bred fowls at \$1.50 and \$2 per dozen than from the barn yard variety at 25 cents. It is easy to figure that 25 pure breeds will earn more money than 100 barn yards.

Few men would admit that their wives know anything about business but a great many will follow their advice and then take all the credit for themselves.

DEC. CROP REPORT OF GOVERNMENT

**Condition of Wheat in N. C.
One Point Lower than Ten-
Year Average---On the
Whole it is 4.1 Per Cent in
United States**

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 7.—Winter wheat was sown on a smaller acreage in the United States this fall than last year, according to the Department of Agriculture's crop report today. The condition of the crop December 1, was 4.1 per cent better than a year ago but 3.3 per cent less than the ten-year average for that date. A total of 32,213,000 acres, 435,000 fewer than last year was planted. A continuance of favorable conditions may result in an increased yield per acre over last year and make up in the total production for the decreased acreage.

The acreage planted to rye is nine-tenths of one per cent greater than that of last year. The condition December 1, was 93.3 per cent of a normal, slightly better than last year and also better than the ten-year average.

Following is the acreage sown this fall and the condition December 1, with the ten-year average on that date for Virginia and North Carolina.

North Carolina acreage 618,000, 1911, 88; ten-year average, 89.

Virginia, acreage, 762,000; 1911, 94; ten-year average, 86.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The December crop report of the Department of Agriculture, issued at 2:15 p. m. today, shows 32,213,000 acres sown to winter wheat this fall, compared with the newly revised estimates based on the Census Bureau's 1909 statement of acreage of 32,648,000 acres for the crop of 1911 and 31,658,000 acres for the crop of 1910.

The condition of winter wheat on December 1 was 86.6 per cent of a normal, compared with 82.5 in 1910, 95.8 in 1909 and 89.9 the ten-year average. The area sown this fall to rye is estimated at 2,436,000 acres compared with the revised estimated area of 2,415,000 acres for the crop of 1911 and 2,413,000 acres for the crop of 1910.

The condition of rye on December 1, was 93.3 per cent of a normal, compared with 92.6 in 1910, 94.1 in 1909 and 92.8 the ten-year average.

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 8.—Weekly Cotton Review:

Cotton advanced frequently during the week on good buying by Liverpool and the continent coincident with greater activity and strength in the Liverpool market where the continental mills were large buyers. Shorts seeing this became uneasy and in 48 hours the Waldorf-Astoria contingent alone is supposed to have covered some 75,000 to 100,000 bales. There is a feeling that the Government crop estimate which is to appear next Monday is likely to be considered under the maximum guesses from private sources. The ginning report of today has also been awaited with not a little interest to see whether it would confirm the large ginning figures, sent out from Memphis some days ago. In some quarters there is a deep seated conviction that the crop is being overestimated and the consumption under estimated. It is urged that the crop movement does not give a color of probability to some extreme estimates and that sufficient allowance is not made for the obvious disposition of continental mills to stock up freely

and even to buy cotton for delivery years ahead as is notoriously the case.

Some of the large spot houses have been buying. Liverpool has bought here against sales in its own market based on the abnormally wide differences between the two big centers, a hundred points or more. This means it is contended that New York prices are too low. However, this may be with European buying and the shorts covering prices have at times shown noticeably greater strength. Leading Wall street bulls have given support from time to time. The holding back of cotton at the South has still been a feature. The \$50,000,000 syndicate plan for helping the South to market its cotton at better advantage has apparently not been abandoned despite the criticisms of its emanating partly from the South. On the other hand, the consensus here is still bearish. Supplies it is urged are too big and there is too much low grade cotton in the crop to make it possible to permanently or materially advance prices, until the load is eased. The crop movement is large. Northern spinners still purchase on a cautious scale and there is comparatively little speculation while the high cost of living militates, it being against the consumption of cotton goods and trade in which is not in a satisfactory condition.

On Friday, the ginning figures, 12,814,832 bales caused a sharp decline. The Government crop estimate on Monday is awaited with keen interest.

KNOCKS DOWN "BUTLERITE."

Then Dr. W. M. Edwards, of Spring Hope, Draws Gun and Clears the Car.

(Rocky Mount Telegram.)

What might have resulted in a serious tragedy and did end in a hard right to the jaw, followed the call of an unknown man on No. 85 last night for "Three cheers for Marion Butler." Dr. W. M. Edwards, of Spring Hope, resented the remarks at once. Words followed and the Doctor sent Butler's friend to a temporary Dreamland with a Wolgast wallop to the face after the other had started to choke him. The Spring Hope man then drew his gun and there was a football rush for the door, and the possible safety of the platform. Butler's friend, who had come back to life, led the interference.

In the midst of the jollification of the typical football crowd returning from Richmond last night, cheers were called for Virginia, Carolina, the unions and a number of other things. They were given with a will. Just after the train left Petersburg, Va., one of the men in the smoking compartment of the day coach yelled out:

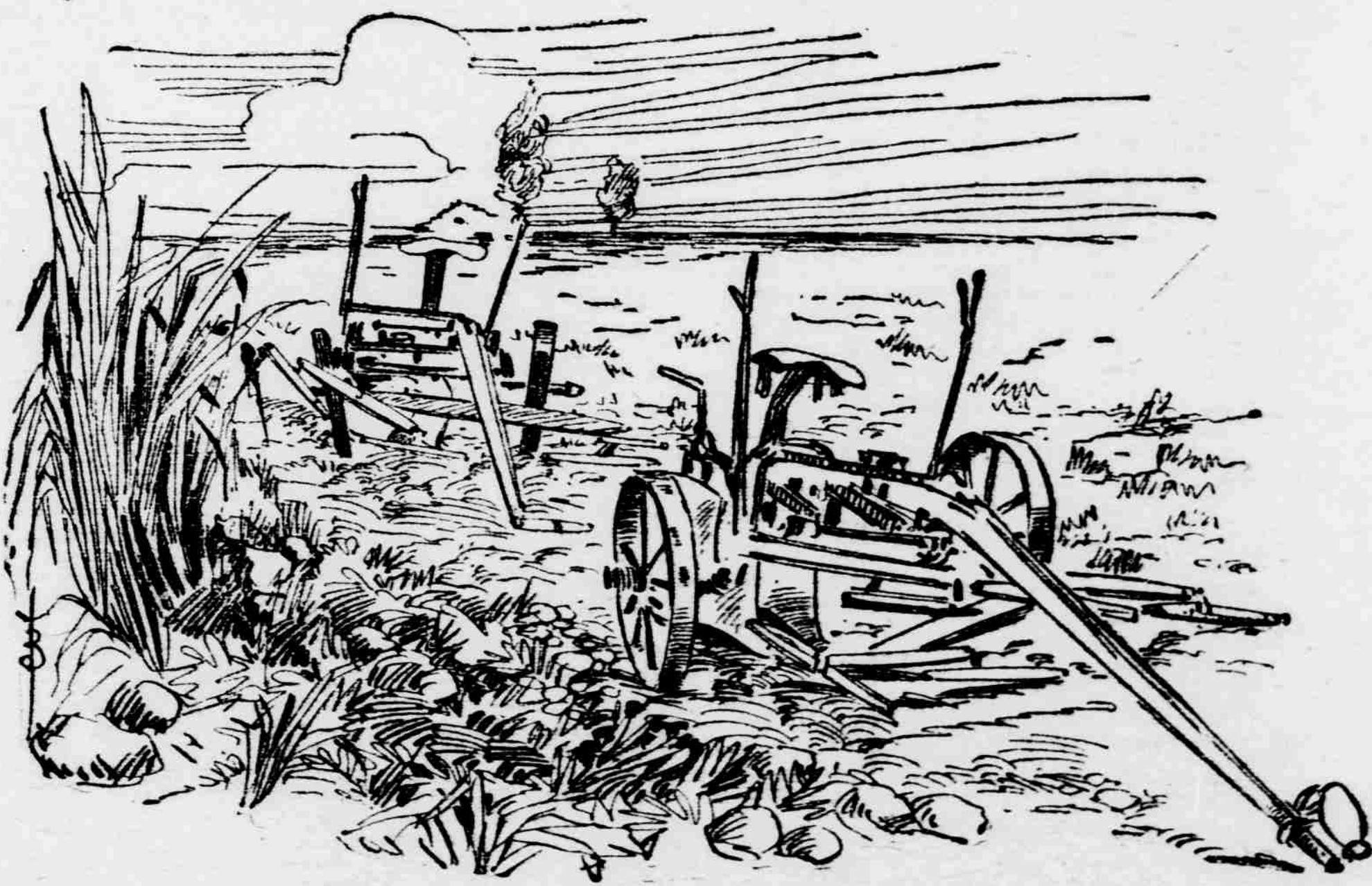
"Three cheers for Marion Butler!" According to other occupants of the compartment, Dr. Edwards jumped to his feet and cried out that the man who called for cheers for Butler was not fit for the society of gentlemen, or words having that same general meaning.

The stranger grabbed Dr. Edwards by the throat, and the Spring Hope man was being pretty badly choked before he managed to get in the right hand punch to the jaw which sent his opponent reeling.

The doctor immediately, fearing further trouble, drew his gun.

Rifft then and there Virginia-Carolina football rushes were tame affairs alongside of the stampede for the outer air from that car! Foremost in the crowd was Butler's friend. He did not come back.

"How do you pass the long winter evenings at your house?" "Studying the magazine club offers, trying to select a combination that will suit the entire family."—Washington Herald.



Ruined by Rain, Snow and Sun.